



With over four billion gallons of imported oil coming through Texas ports each month, our state has a unique responsibility to prevent and clean up oil spills. That's a charge we take seriously at the Texas General Land Office. The GLO Oil Spill Prevention and Response Program was created in 1991 to take on this special mission, and has grown into an internationally recognized model for coastal protection. The mission of the team is simple: Educate, Prevent and Respond.

This entails educating the public and the petrochemical industry about the danger of oil spills, prevent even the smallest spill, and failing that, respond immediately to protect the coast.

In any given year our dedicated Oil Spill team responds to anywhere from 850 to 1,000 oil spill calls. Even the smallest amount of oil in our bays and estuaries can be devastating to fish, shrimp, and other marine life—so we respond immediately, day or night.

Through prevention education, community outreach, and enforcement, the General Land Office Oil Spill Prevention and Response team works every day to strike a balance between vital petrochemical industries and the fragile environment along the Texas coast. Thanks to its hard work, Texas can enjoy a pristine coast for generations to come.

Jerry Patterson
JERRY PATTERSON

Commissioner, Texas General Land Office



The Texas General Land Office serves as the steward of 13 million acres of state-owned land, including 4 million acres of submerged land and Gulf Coast shoreline. The agency has primary responsibility

for protecting the environmental and economic integrity of coastal resources. The Oil Spill Prevention & Response Program was created in 1991, through the Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act (OSPRA, Ch. 40, Tex. Nat. Res. Code), which designated the Land Office as the lead state agency for prevention of and response to coastal oil spills in Texas. Firehouse-response ready, the GLO has staged response equipment at high traffic and environmentally sensitive locations along the Texas coast. The Oil Spill program is comprised of several divisions that play a major role in ensuring the Texas coast is protected.

COMPLIANCE

Oil Spill Prevention and Response requires that all maritime facilities that handle oil, and many vessels operating in Texas waters, have oil spill contingency plans. The plans detail strategies for spill response, and list trained personnel and inventories of spill response equipment. More than 600 facilities and 1,700 vessel operators have accounts with the Land Office.



RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Oil Spill program spends \$1.25 million a year on research and development. Research must be conducted by state institutions of higher education. Funded projects include preventative technologies, spill detection, environmental data collection, chemical countermeasures, decision support, recovered materials management, in-situ burning, workshops and data development. Each project represents the program's commitment to improving response technology and developing alternative methods for removing oil from coastal waters.



BILGE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITIES

The Oil Spill program finances and oversees the operation of eight Bilge Water Reclamation Facilities along the Texas coast. They provide free disposal of oily bilge water for operators of fishing vessels and small vessels. The facilities have collected over one million gallons of waste oil that

might otherwise have been discarded into coastal waters.

DISCHARGE CLEANUP ORGANIZATION

The agency's Discharge Cleanup Organization designates oil spill response companies and organizations that qualify for an "adequate" classification. A company certified under this program may be listed in an operator's facility response plans as a source of "adequate" oil spill response. In addition, certified responders can be hired for certain state-funded cleanup operations.



DERELICT VESSEL PROGRAM

In 2005, the Texas Legislature granted greater authority to the Land Commissioner to remove and dispose of derelict vessels and structures on the Texas coast. It is now a Class A misdemeanor, with fines and/or jail time, for intentionally abandoning a vessel or structure in waters of the state. The Oil Spill Division has developed a program in cooperation

with the GLO's Asset Inspection Division, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and local coastal governments to identify and facilitate the removal of vessels and structures that pose a spill threat, are a hazard to human health, safety and welfare, or pose threats to navigation or the environment.

SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT

The Oil Spill program has completed the design and placement of eight offshore buoys that provide vital real-time information on the speed and direction of sea currents. Known as the Texas Automated Buoy System, the buoys feed information into computer-based trajectory models that accurately predict the movement of oil on the water's surface. This allows strategic positioning of response equipment.



For more than 10 years, the program has offered an updated version of the Oil Spill Prevention and Response Program Toolkit. This indispensable aid contains all three Area Contingency Plans, the Upper and Lower Coast Response Atlases, the Field Operation Guide, Incident Command System forms and much more. The toolkit provides critical response-planning data for industry, spill response contractors and government agencies. It can be viewed from the program Web site, and is also available on DVD free of charge.



To Report Spills

1-800-832-8224

For more information visit our web site

www.glo.state.tx.us/oilspill



LOCATIONS

AUSTIN HEADQUARTERS

Stephen F. Austin Building
P.O. Box 12873
Austin, Texas 78711-2873
512-475-1575
1-800-998-4GLO

REGION 1

2300 Hwy 365, Suite 340
Nederland, Texas 77627-6256
409-727-7481

REGION 2

11811 North D Street
La Porte, Texas 77571-9135
281-470-6597

REGION 3

Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi
Natural Resources Center
6300 Ocean Drive, Unit 5847
Corpus Christi, Texas 78412-5847
361-825-3300

REGION 4

2145 EMS Lane
Brownsville, Texas 78521-2666
956-504-1417

REGION 5

414 Travis Street
Port Lavaca, Texas 77979
361-552-8081

Texas Oil Spill Hotline
1-800-832-8224

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please call one of the five field offices or the main office of the Oil Spill Prevention and Response Program, or visit our Web site at www.glo.state.tx.us/oilspill. The telephone numbers are listed below the map.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Current job openings in the Oil Spill Prevention and Response Program are posted on the Texas General Land Office Web site at www.glo.state.tx.us. Qualification requirements vary by position.

PREVENT OIL SPILLS

Most oil spills are caused by inattention on the part of persons either at work, fueling their boats, or through intentional acts. Please pay close attention to fuel transfer procedures and immediately report any discharge of fuel into Texas coastal waters.

A TEXAS-SIZED PROBLEM

An estimated 140,000 gallons of unauthorized discharges enter our state's coastal waters every year.

SMALL SPILLS HURT

Even tiny amounts of oil are toxic to marine life and vegetation. A gallon of oil can kill half of the exposed fish and shrimp larvae in one million gallons of water.

KEEP COASTAL WATERS CLEAN

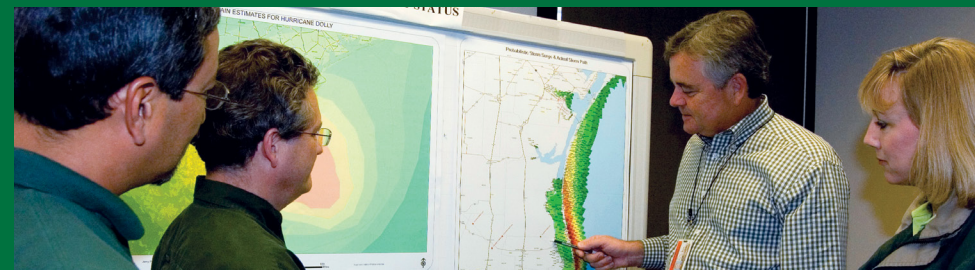
Many Texans earn a living from fishing and tourism. It is vital for our future that we continually work to protect Texas' natural resources—along the coast—for generations to come.

TO REPORT DISCHARGES

If you see an unauthorized discharge of oil in Texas coastal waters, immediately call the Texas General Land Office at 1-800-832-8224.

The Texas General Land Office does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age or disability in employment or the provision of services. To request special accommodations, call the Director of Human Resources/ADA Coordinator at 512-475-1390. To contact us by TDD call 512-463-5330 or through RELAY Texas at 1-800-735-2988, or mail your request to P.O. Box 12873, Austin, Texas 78711-2873. April 2010

EDUCATE



PREVENT



RESPOND



Jerry Patterson, Commissioner

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